

PROPOSED CHANGES

Key: ~~Deleted~~, Added

Policy on Public Representatives

One of ABHE's major purposes is to assure the general public that its institutions and programs are educationally effective. To realize this purpose, ABHE seeks to be sensitive to the ~~public needs~~ need for having representation from the public at the meetings of an accrediting agency's decision makers. Accordingly, ABHE seeks to have public representatives on both the Board of Directors and the Commission on Accreditation.

Relationship to Commission

Public representatives are related to the Commission on Accreditation as follows:

1. They are appointed to their office by the relevant decision-making body upon the recommendation of the professional staff.
2. They are appointed to their office for one four-year term and may succeed themselves for a second term after which they may not be re-appointed for four years.
3. They can terminate their office by written resignation to the Commission officers.
4. Their appointment can be terminated by the unanimous vote of the Commission officers.
5. They ~~shall~~ will serve as voting members of the Commission.
6. They have the right to enter comments into the official minutes of the Commission.
7. They ~~shall~~ will constitute at least one seventh and not more than one fifth of the Commission membership.

Qualifications

Public representatives ~~shall~~ will have the following qualifications:

1. They ~~shall~~ will not be related to an ABHE ~~affiliate~~, applicant, candidate, or accredited institution or program by employment or board membership.
2. They ~~shall~~ will not serve as a consultant to an ABHE ~~affiliate~~, applicant, candidate, or accredited institution or program.
3. They ~~shall~~ will not be a member of any trade association or membership organization related to, affiliated with, or associated with the ABHE Commission on Accreditation.

4. They ~~shall~~ will not be a spouse, parent, child, or sibling of an individual identified in paragraphs one through three above.
5. They ~~shall~~ will be sympathetic to biblical higher education and its philosophy of education.
6. They ~~shall~~ will be individuals who are known for their integrity, common sense, and professional accomplishments.
7. They ~~shall~~ will be individuals who have an awareness of needs and interests of the general public as related to higher education.

Public representatives ~~shall~~ will have the following duties:

1. They ~~shall~~ will acquaint themselves with the purposes of biblical higher education.
2. They ~~shall~~ will acquaint themselves with ABHE Standards for Accreditation.
3. They ~~shall~~ will acquaint themselves with ABHE procedures for accreditation.
4. They ~~shall~~ will familiarize themselves with materials made available to them prior to a meeting of the decision-making body to which they are appointed.
5. They ~~shall~~ will attend a major portion of all meetings of the decision-making body.
6. They ~~shall~~ will seek to ensure that the decision-making body follows established ABHE policies and procedures.
7. They ~~shall~~ will alert the decision-making body to issues they perceive to be pertinent to the public interests and that relate to the issue requiring a decision.
8. They ~~shall~~ will honor ABHE's policies concerning the confidentiality of materials. Within these constraints, they ~~shall~~ will have the privilege of reporting to the public such items and through such media as they deem desirable.

Adopted October 1982; Revised February 2007, April 2012, June 2014, **PROPOSED February 2016**